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From: The Washington Post [email@washingtonpost.com]
Sent: 4/24/2018 1:20:46 PM
To: Woods, Clint [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=bc65010f5c2e48f4bc2aa050db50d198-Woods, Clint]
Subject: The Energy 202: Why Scott Pruitt's decision on burning wood is so high stakes

The Washington Post

Analysis on the energy and environment

PowerPost

The En

Your daily policy charge

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Why Scott Pruitt's decision



BY DINO GRANDONI
with Paulina Firozi

THE LIGHTBULB



Environmental Protection Agency Administrator

Here is a reminder that Scott Pruitt
is still charging forward with

The EPA chief declared Monday
will be considered “carbon neutral”
reported Monday evening.

Trees are largely composed of carbon.
Ideally, as the trees grow back, they pull
out of the atmosphere. **So the forest is**
considered a renewable and carbon sink.

“Today’s announcement grants recognition
to the carbon neutrality of forests in Georgia.”



Adminis
@EPASco

It's been a great
carbon neutrality
& water quality,
daily lives. This
bit.ly/2JJTcbs

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But the notion that biomass is
that once forests are cleared
back as planned.

"Like so much else from Pruitt and his administration," said Sami Yassa, who opposes burning wood for electricity, "this is a

If the forests do grow back, why complications:

- **While carbon dioxide** emitted by trees takes decades or more to grow back -- say, a forest fire in the Amazon takes decades to regrow
- **Wood products are often exported** to Europe, which has declared wood pellets carbon neutral, despite the greenhouse gas emissions from shipping
- **Even if forests grow back** after a fire, the wooded habitat for decades is lost

The EPA's own Science Advisory Board, in a letter to the agency's policy memo released last week, said that "it is not scientifically valid" to conclude that the board said any such determination.

William Schlesinger, president
Science Advisory Board memb
subject," he said — by making
“We’re supposed to provide an
what’s our role?”

Why does the forest products carbon neutral could make it ea

deregulating biomass carbon dioxide emissions provisions in the Clean Air Act.

“Recognizing that forest biomass energy production will encourage landowners to reforest, creating long-paying jobs well into the future,” said the National Association of Forest Owners, said in a statement.

Why do conservationists care? The new rule, part of the Clean Power Plan, or something like that, would mean biomass energy would be treated like so-called “dispatchable” carbon sources of electricity.

And Congress? Lawmakers, including Sen. Al Franken, said it was spurred by the May 2015 report from the Energy and Agriculture department that biomass is a “clean” energy source.

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POWER PLAYS



The Capitol Hill condo building where Environment

— Dems raise “troubling” que

letter calling on House Oversight
information about Pruitt’s securit

In the letter, the Democrats cite c
communications, which contradic
privacy booth. The letter also alle
preapproval, and were done out
Thomas R. Carper (Del.) and Sh
Gerald E. Connolly (Va.) and Do

Republicans are calling for he

(Ark.).and Pruitt ally James M. In
and Public Works Committee on
on the committee think it’s appro
his office is concerned,” Inhofe s

Pruitt *is* heading to the Capito

Commerce Subcommittee on En
subcommittee in the afternoon.

The hearings are ostensibly al

questions about his spending an

— like granting high raises to favor his own finances. It's the first time Pruitt v



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intention



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Sanders on EP
some of those t
done a good job

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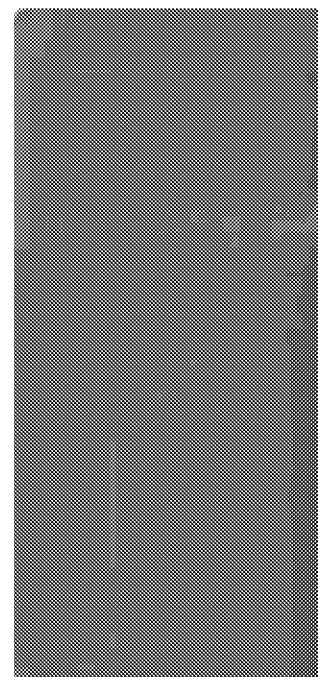
— White House press secretary
White House's ongoing support a

himself has not yet soured on the regulations.

"We're reviewing some of those implementing the President's policies are something we are monitoring."

White House officials are wary of Pruitt, Bloomberg News reports. "Pruitt's support for the administration may be waning," the report adds.

— Environmentalists are trying to stop Pruitt's released a new ad on "Fox & Friends" about a condo deal with a lobbyist's wife.



Friends

@foe_us

Trump has been

So today we pu

@foxandfriends

2:12 PM - Apr 23

♡ 33 💬 23 pe

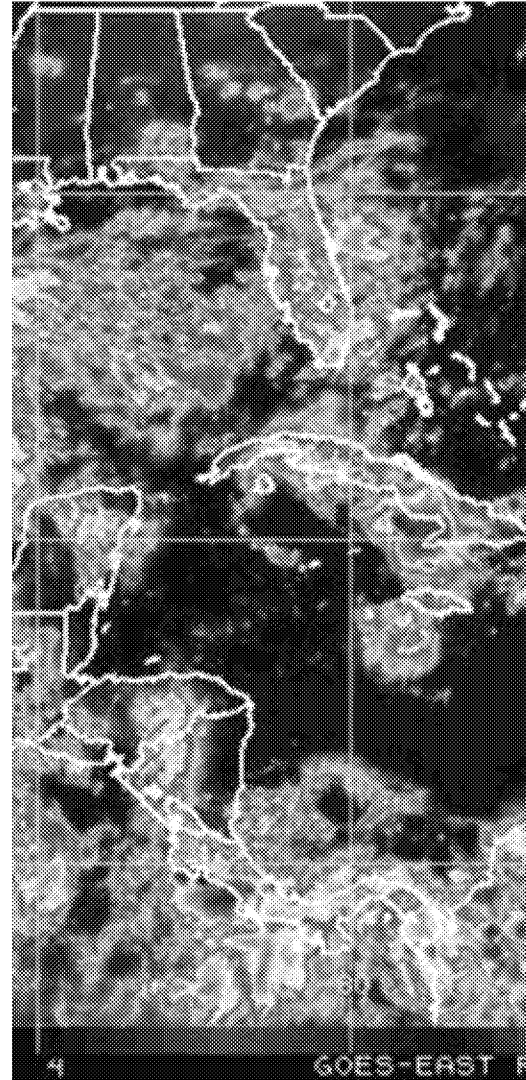
— **Back to EPA policy:** After w
expected to announce a new sci
into consideration when writing n
new rule will allow the EPA to

Why? Conservatives want to lim
transparency. House Science Co
requirement through legislation,

However, many scientists, along with health and environmental studies, have found information the EPA could take into account. Sensitive health information from studies on agricultural chemicals are harming people.

— **Meanwhile, another policy change.** The administration cannot delay pending a decision. The U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals did not take the case." Instead, it issued a one-day order. The Safety Administration on triple fine.

— **Changing targets:** Senate Democrats. Pruitt, began a series of speeches. His influence on Trump administration. He came after Sens. Sheldon Whitehouse (Nev.), Elizabeth Warren (Mass.). He wrote a letter to President Trump calling for a new government. "Americans have a right to make decisions that have profound impact on their lives," senators wrote.



This satellite image provided by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (AP)

— Improving the weather system

interview with The Post's Jason
administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
code, observations, and computer models.
better and more frequent observations.
he said. Read the full Q&A with J.



New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo. (AP Photo/Bebe Rejlander)

— **Cuomo calls for plastic bag**
bill that would ban plastic carryout bags.
his Democratic primary challenge
of activists, calling on the governor
challenging Cuomo from the left



West Virginia Republican Senate candidate Don Blankenship. (Photo/Steve Helber)

— **Coal boss slips in poll: West Virginia**
Republican primary in West Virginia.
Republican establishment has taken
prison after a deadly mine explosion.
poll — commissioned by GOPAC.
Blankenship trailing at 12 percent
support.

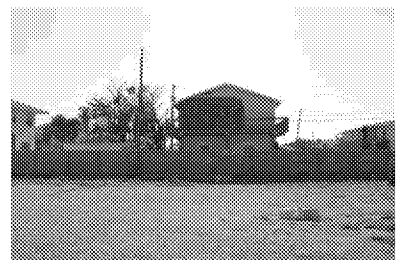


A resident meets with a FEMA representative to discuss aid in Las Piedras, Puerto Rico. (AP Photo/Carlos Gius)

— Still in hotels, seven months later

twice threatened to cut off temporary aid. On Friday, FEMA extended aid to residents in Puerto Rico until May 14, according to a FEMA spokesman. But the fact that they are still on the street... But the fact that they are still on the street... something very wrong," Diane Yonk, executive director of the National Housing Coalition, told the LA Times.

THERMOMETER



A vacant lot where mobile homes used to sit before Hurricane Maria.

— Climate gentrification on the rise

forcing lower-income people away from their homes.

disproportionately affect lower-cost housing, which is often replaced with pricier accommodations, leading to displacement and gentrification.” Public housing maintenance is often underfunded and costly. Strict building requirements, such as energy efficiency codes, do taxes as things like sea walls and flood insurance, which “often become wealthier after a storm.”

— The health care industry’s carbon footprint is a major producer of carbon dioxide in the United States. The environment shapes our health, and climate change can adversely affect the health of communities. Recent links suggest that health care organizations are major greenhouse gas emissions, and that climate-related catastrophes.” The foundation has been working on emissions.



Mertz glacier in East Antarctica. (Alessandro Silva)

— **A dire climate scenario:** A new dire prediction about climate change says that ocean water around them, which is cold in the winter, Chris Mooney reports.

What does this mean? “[T]he new loop in which that melting, through explains. “The melting water stratifies and warmer water sitting below. water.” And of course, seas rise



A dump wagon adds freshly gathered corn cobs

— **Where to store billions of tons** of corn-ethanol. The industry would be to fit corn-ethanol into the economic analysis suggests. The intense environmental politics of the fermentation process that releases carbon dioxide, burying some of the carbon instead



A man walks past the corporate logo of the state

— **Venezuela unravels:** Two Ch... be charged with treason there for... Reuters reports. “The arrests, by... Venezuela and represent a dram... companies over control of supply

DAYBOOK

Today

- The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee will hold a hearing on the U.S. Forest Service.
- The Bipartisan Policy Center will hold a hearing on the U.S. Forest Service.

Coming Up

- The American Fuel and Petrochemical Manufacturers will host a Security Conference on Tuesday.
- The House Natural Resources Committee will hold a hearing on the National Environmental Policy Act on **Wednesday**.
- Bloomberg Government and the Center for Energy Science will host discussions on Investment and Innovation on **Wednesday**.
- SAIS Energy, Resources and Environment will hold a discussion on **Wednesday**.
- The Center for Energy Science will hold an Energy Symposium on **Thursday**.
- The House Natural Resources Committee will hold a hearing on revenue sharing or gulf protection on **Thursday**.
- Scott Pruitt will testify on the U.S. Forest Service before the Commerce Subcommittee on **Thursday**.
- EPA chief Scott Pruitt will testify on the U.S. Forest Service before the Environment and Related Resources Subcommittee on **Thursday**.

- The United States Energy Partnership on **Thursday**.
- The Information Technology Innovation Gap in Grid-Sc
- The Center for New American lower oil price era on **Thur**
- The House Natural Resources hold a legislative hearing c
- Women's Council on Ener

EXTRA MILEAGE

Trump and Macron plant tree on White House lawn

— If Donald Trump and Emmanuel Macron, from severe warming, they can
 presidents planted a photo op (a
 The sapling was a gift from Macron
 of Belleau Wood, a historic World

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